

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 /016 W

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R 051223Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1319

UNCLAS BANGKOK 3700

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJ: IESC OFFICE CLOSURE

REF: A) BANGKOK 0957

B) STATE 018467

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE RTG DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION URGING OUR INTERCESSION WITH NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS OF INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS TO OBTAIN REVERSAL OF DECISION TO CLOSE BANGKOK OFFICE.

2. DCM HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION RECENTLY WITH HAROLD CRAWFORD, IESC VICE PRESIDENT WHO INDICATED CLOSURE WAS PART OF GENERAL RETREN-CHMENT IESC FOR BUDGETARY REASONS, BUTTRESSED IN SPECIFIC CASE BANGKOK BY FALL-OFF IN ACTIVITY OVER PAST YEAR. VIEW STRONG INTEREST RTG IN RETAINING IESC RESOURCE WHICH HAS MADE SOLID CONTRIBUTION TO RTG DEVELOPMENT EFFORT OVER 10-YEAR PERIOD, REQUEST DEPARTMENT URGE IESC RECONSIDER DECISION. PAST YEAR ADMITTEDLY PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY AND SLACKENED ACTIVITY BUT IESC HAS UNIQUE CAPABILITY PROVIDE ASSISTANCE PARTICULARLY TO PRIVATE SECTOR THAI ECONOMY. WITH GENERAL DRAWDOWN OFFICIAL US PRESENCE EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE RETAIN OTHER US INFLUENCE HERE, PARTICULARLY ONE AS USEFUL AND HIGHLY REGARDED AS IESC.

3. FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL'S LETTER:

QUOTE: ALTHOUGH THE INFORMATION I RECEIVED WAS VERBAL, BUT IF IT UNCLASSIFIED

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IS OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED THEN IT WOULD BE A TREMENDOUS SET BACK

FOR THE FINE WORK THAT IESC HAS BEEN DOING IN THAILAND FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS OR SO, PARTICULARLY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY. AS YOU MAY BE AWARE, THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION HAS CONDUCTED AN EVALUATION ON IESC ACTIVITIES IN 1973. THE RESULT OF WHICH HAS BEEN A POSITIVE ONE. IT CONCLUDED THAT MORE THAN 90 PERCENT OF THE FIRMS AND ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING THESE EXECUTIVE VOLUNTEERS WERE SATISFIED WITH THEIR PERFORMANCE AND THAT THE SERVICES WERE WORTH MORE THAN THE MONEY SPENT ON THEM.

AS MENTIONED ABOVE, DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS IESC HAS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THAILAND'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS, PARTICULARLY IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS. CREDIT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IESC, MR. RAYMOND M. DAVIS, WHO DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS HAS INITIATED MANY SUCCESSFUL PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

WE BELIEVE THAT WITHOUT A PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN BANGKOK, IESC CANNOT EXPECT TO OPERATE AND DEVELOP PROJECTS EFFECTIVELY. IT IS HOPED, THEREFORE, THAT YOU COULD CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO THE IESC AUTHORITIES IN NEW YORK. THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION FOR YOUR KIND ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER. UNQUOTE.

4. WE MUCH APPRECIATE EFFORTS ALREADY MADE (REF B) BUT IN VIEW STAKES INVOLVED REQUEST DEPARTMENT/AID MAKE ONE MORE TRY TO CONVINCE IESC OF NEED TO KEEP RESIDENT OFFICE AND REPRESENTATIVE HERE FOR AT LEAST ONE MORE YEAR PENDING REASSESSMENT THAI POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATIONS AND POTENTIAL FOR GREATER IESC ACTIVITIES.

5. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST SO WE CAN REPLY TO DTEC.  
KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

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